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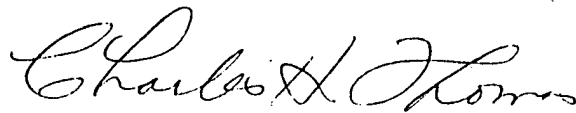
2000 finally rejecting Claims 1-17.

Applicant hereby appeals from the rejection of Claims 1-17.

Applicant encloses herewith a check in the amount of \$155.00 to cover the fee of \$155.00 due at the time of filing the Notice of Appeal by a small entity, as provided by 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(b). Please charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment of fees in this connection to Patent Office Deposit Account No. 032035.

Dated: November 28, 2000

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Charles H. Thomas".

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